reeling areas. Efforts are being intensified to transfer these technologes to the States with the help of the State Departments of Sericulture. To meet the demand for warp quality mulberry silk imports have been facilitated. The Ninth Plan envisages an increase in the production of mulberry raw silk by 6000 tonnes and 540 tonnes of non-mulberry silk through research & development, transfer of technology, seed support and assistance to States. Apart from the north East Action Plan and the Poorvanchal Sericulture Project which are continuing from the VIIIth Plan, the Govt. of India has sanctioned implementation of 36 Catalytic Development Schemes during IXth Plan, Besides, the States of Madhya Pradesh and Manipur have undertaken implementation of the Project with financial assistance from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan in respect of tasar and mulberry sericulture respectively. The project in Madhya Pradesh envisages development of 4000 hectares of tasar food plants and increased production of 75 tonnes of tasar raw silk per annum after the project period. The project in Manipur aims at increased production of 60 tonnes of mulberry raw silk per annum after the project period. The Govt. fo Uttar Pradesh under the Diversified Agricultural Project has envisaged a 750 tonnes per year increase in silk production with World Bank assistance. Besides, the Central Silk Board, has prepared an integrated Project for Muga and Eri. In addition development programmes for non-mulberry silk will be taken up with UNDP assistance from 1999-2000 under the Fibres and Handicrafts Programme.

Impact of price cut by Bangladesh on Indian jute exports

1705. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minsiter of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that India is losing ground in the global jute market due to price cutting by Bangladesh jute mills;

(b) if so, whether Government plan to give extra subsidy for export of jute goods; and

(c) if not, how Government plan to help increase the export of jute goods?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is already implementing an External Market Assistance Scheme (EMA), under which assistance at specified rates is provided for export of certain categories of jute goods. The scheme is reviewed from time to time to make it more rational and effective. The number of products eligible under EMA scheme has been increased from three to eight in the last two years.

(c) Does not arise.

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12 NOON

PROCLAMATION UNDER ARTICLE 356 OF THE CONSTITUTION IN RELATION TO STATE OF BIHAR

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Before the hon. Home Minister lays a copy of the Proclamation in connection with the revocation of President's Rule in Bihar, under clause (2) of article 356 on the Table of the House, my most respectful submission, through you, to the Government would be that the Presidential Proclamation was revoked on 8th night. We were informed by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the Cabinet had decided that the formalities were to be complied with, after the President's return from outside. One can understand that the decision was taken in the evening, when Parliament was not in Session. But yesterday, we sat for the whole day. Neither of the House was informed officially by the Government that the earlier Presidential Proclamation has been revoked by another Proclamation. this is just a constitutional requirement and no heavy homework is called for. I do not understand why the Government did not inform the House, the Parliament. Even when we were in Session, neighter of the House was informed. At least, this House was not informed. I was sitting here from 11 o'clock till the adjournment of the House. None of the representatives of the Government came and told us that the Presidential Proclamation has been withdrawn. Everything is being taken casually, and this is highly objectionable. Particularly, the Union Home Minister, who was the Leader of this